

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

**Bureau of Indian Affairs** 

[201A2100DD/AAKC001030//A0A501010.999900; OMB Control Number 1076-0094]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Law and Order on Indian Reservations – Marriage and Dissolution Applications

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Indian Affairs, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) are proposing renew an information collection.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Please send written comments on this information collection request (ICR) to Ms. Tricia Tingle, Associate Director, Tribal Justice Support Directorate, 1001 Indian School Road NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104; or by email to Tricia.Tingle@bia.gov. Please reference OMB Control Number 1076-0094 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request additional information about this ICR, contact Ms. Tricia Tingle by email at Tricia.Tingle@bia.gov. You may also view the ICR at http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements

and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

We are soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the BIA; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the BIA enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the BIA minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment - including your personal identifying information - may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Abstract: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is seeking renewal of the approval for the information collection conducted under 25 CFR 11.600(c) and 11.606(c). This information collection allows the Clerk of the Court of Indian Offenses to collect personal information necessary for a Court of Indian Offenses to issue a marriage license or dissolve a marriage. Courts of Indian Offenses have been established on certain Indian reservations under the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by 5 U.S.C. 301 and 25 U.S.C. 2, 9, and 13, which authorize appropriations for "Indian judges." Tribes retain jurisdiction over Indians, exclusive of State jurisdiction, but in the absence of Tribal courts exercising that jurisdiction, the Bureau of Indian Affairs been required to establish Courts of Indian Offenses to protect tribal members and other Indians.

Accordingly, Courts of Indian Offenses exercise jurisdiction under 25 CFR 11. Domestic

relations are governed by 25 CFR 11.600, which authorizes the Court of Indian Offenses to conduct and dissolve marriages.

In order to obtain a marriage licenses in a Court of Indian Offenses, applicants must provide the six items of information listed in 25 CFR 11.600(c), including identifying information, such a Social Security number, information on previous marriage, relationship to the other applicant, and a certificate of the results of any medical examination required by applicable Tribal ordinances or the laws of the State in which the Indian country under the jurisdiction of the Court of Indian Offenses is located. To dissolve a marriage, applicants must provide the six items of information listed in 25 CFR 11.606(c), including information on occupation and residency (to establish jurisdiction), information on whether the parties have lives apart for at least 180 days or if there is serious marital discord warranting dissolution, and information on the children of the marriage and whether the wife is pregnant (for the court to determine the appropriate level of support that may be required from the non-custodial parent). (25 CFR 11.601) Two forms are used as part of this information collection, the Marriage License Application and the Dissolution of Marriage Application.

Title of Collection: Law and Order on Indian Reservations – Marriage & Dissolution Applications.

OMB Control Number: 1076-0094.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Extension without change of a currently approved collection.

Respondents/Affected Public: Individuals.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Respondents: 260 per year, on average.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Responses: 260 per year, on average.

Estimated Completion Time per Response: 15 minutes.

Total Estimated Number of Annual Burden Hours: 65 hours.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to Obtain or Retain a Benefit.

Frequency of Collection: On occasion.

Total Estimated Annual Nonhour Burden Cost: \$6,500 (approximately \$25 per application for processing fees).

An agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The authority for this action is the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq*).

## Elizabeth K. Appel,

Director,

Office of Regulatory Affairs and Collaborative Action – Indian Affairs.

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